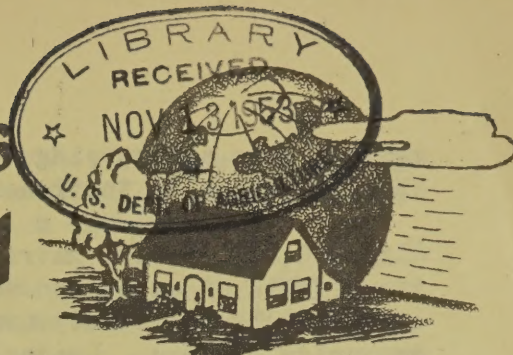


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Today's Home Builds Tomorrow's World



SOURCE MATERIAL: National Home Demonstration Week, May 5 to 12

A Kaleidoscopic View of Activities the Country Over

During National Home Demonstration Week, May 5 to 12, the entire nation will be the stage upon which current activities, problems, future plans, and past progress of the home demonstration program will be viewed and reviewed. The program of improvement in family living through practical application of science, instituted some 30 years ago, is now reaching and influencing over 3½ million families in almost every county in the 48 States and many of the counties in Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico.

Although the women participating in the home demonstration program have for many years been the source of action and inspiration for better family living, better rural health and community facilities, and better citizenship in the local, national and world community, National Home Demonstration Week will be observed for the first time this year. During that Week, nation-wide attention will be focused on the activities and achievements of women in home demonstration work.

A kaleidoscopic view of home demonstration work the country over, highlighting some of the concrete results contributing to health, happiness, and harmony in individual homes and the community is attempted in the following pages.

HEALTH

Health is a matter of major concern to rural women throughout the country, and is being approached from many angles. A few of these are food and nutrition, improved sanitation, disease and accident prevention, and improved medical and hospital facilities.

Hospitalization and Clinics

In approximately one third of the States, some home demonstration clubs have provided a means for farm families to join together to arrange for group hospital insurance. Many families in this way have not only provided better

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medical care and nursing service for themselves but have helped to extend these benefits to their neighbors.

Almost 6,000 (5,648) nutrition or health clinics were organized in 1944 through the efforts of extension workers and rural women. Immunization clinics were conducted by the county health nurse in cooperation with neighborhood and community leaders. Leaders informed the people about the clinics, arranged places of meeting, and encouraged participation. Thus, farm families are aiding each other in the prevention of epidemics while medical care is hard to obtain.

Cancer Clinic Sponsored

The Albemarle Cancer Clinic in Virginia was initiated by home demonstration clubs, and was named the "Bessie Don Miller" Clinic after a former home demonstration agent. The clinic is the only one ever established by a rural women's organization primarily for rural families. Patients going through the clinic have always been referred for treatment to their own physicians. The Albemarle County Home Demonstration Council helps to pay the fee for those who cannot afford an examination. Many groups, however, including the Community Chest and other agencies and individuals have cooperated in the clinic's upkeep.

Health Meetings

In the State of Washington 8 district health meetings were held throughout the State during February and March. The meetings were initiated by the Extension Service. Representatives from various educational agencies and organizations were invited. The possible expansion of State and county health programs was discussed and planned. Also the important matters of clinics, hospitalization and medical services were discussed and some plans drawn up for action.

Improved Sanitation

The State Farm Women's Council in South Carolina has three aims relating to health - the improvement of hygienic facilities in the country home, a pure water supply, and the improved handling of foods and milk.

7-Point Program

In Mississippi the home demonstration clubs have taken as their theme, "Our goal is health - the wealth we keep and share," and a seven-point program: Eat the seven basic foods every day; make your home sanitary; visit your doctor and dentist regularly; see your health department for immunization; keep good posture in working; wear the right shoes and clothes for work; and keep the right mental attitude: worry is poison.

Emergency Loan Chest

The Knoxville Home Demonstration Club, Johnson County, Arkansas, has been providing a service to the community for the past 10 years by maintaining an emergency chest of supplies for loan to families in case of illness.

The chest contains, among other things, a hot water bottle, ice cap, fever thermometer, bed pan, rubber sheet, cotton sheets and pillow cases, towels and wash cloths, gowns, and pajamas, blankets, and a quilt.

When any one of these items are worn out or lost it is replaced. The club has brought the fourth rubber sheet, the third hot water bottle, third ice cap, and third fever thermometer.

The chest has been kept in the home of Mrs. S. M. Heard, vice-president of the club. No record has been kept of the number of times it has been used, Miss Mitchell states, but club members say there are very few families in the community who have not used something from it.

Home-Safety

Farm families by the thousands removed hazards that might have caused accidents. New cellar steps and stair rails were repaired, stairways kept clear, loose steps fixed, electric cords repaired, lights were installed in closets and stairways, non skid floor wax was used, small throw rugs were removed, loose linoleum floor coverings were tacked down, drains were repaired to prevent icy steps, icy steps were sanded, fire extinguishers were installed and first aid kits were purchased. Safety measures in home canning were stressed, an important point when many families were canning for the first time.

Illinois has been pioneering a new approach to home safety. "Safe home awards are offered to families who report no home accidents during a year. Emphasis on the positive instead of the negative has brought good results. Since the number of accidents in farm homes is on the decrease, we can assume educational campaigns are having their effect.

HOUSING

Housing, always a subject of universal interest, has become even more so with the prospective availability of building materials, and the extension of rural electrification lines. Even during the war year of 1944, farm families, using available materials received the assistance of extension agents in constructing 17,473 and remodeling 62,993 homes and building 62,188 and repairing 81,406 farm structures.

Indicative of the increased interest in housing are the special housing projects being carried on at the request of farm families by extension services in Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, Maine, Massachusetts, Montana, New York, North and South Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming, and probably many more.

Home Planners Institute

In New York, Home Planners Institutes have been held, sponsored by the Board of education, Chamber of Commerce and Home Bureaus, as well as utility

companies and banks. A series of 10 lessons were set up with well trained speakers. One-hour was devoted to talks followed by questions, answers and discussion. The Institutes helped thousands of people to know more about choice of home site, financing and designing the house, selecting building materials, kitchen and laundry planning, wiring, lighting, choosing the architect and contractor; plumbing, heating, and air conditioning; interior decoration, house furnishings; recreation and landscaping. It is anticipated that many more home institutes will be fostered by the Extension Service in cooperation with other agencies during the coming year.

Farm Housing Meetings

In Georgia, Extension Service county agricultural and home demonstration agents are participating in a series of 12 one-day farm housing meetings which are being held throughout the State.

The one-day short courses are designed to give agents the latest and best information on all phases of farm housing. Topics discussed include desirable standards for postwar farm homes, essential features of farm house plans, interior arrangements, masonry block construction, use of native materials in building, and locating and landscaping of the home. Other subjects being stressed at the meetings are electric wiring, plumbing and septic tanks, interior and exterior painting and finishes, the relation of sanitation to housing, and the coordination of county farm housing programs. The agents will pass this information along to farm families in county training conferences.

Building Schools

In Arkansas, the great surge of interest in farm building since the war is evidenced in the number of farm building schools being requested by farm families. In the past few weeks, one or two-day builders' schools have been held in Clay, Lawrence, Howard, Grant, and Polk counties, attended by both men and women who worked on their individual plans and problems for building, remodeling, and installation of utilities. Instruction is also provided in laying stone, and preparing rough lumber, and rocks for buildings.

The meetings are held as a part of the Arkansas extension service' homemade homes program. Building blueprints for the use of the farm families are provided by the College of Agriculture of the University of Arkansas.

Housing Goals

In California, 26 county economic conferences held last winter made recommendations for improving farm family living; Kern county recommended that plans for farm homes at different cost levels and sizes be made, and when available, be given publicity. These plans are to be drawn to improve family living and fulfill special needs of the farm family in the following manner:

1. Convenience in kitchens
2. Privacy for individual members of family
3. Definite place for planning and transacting business on the farm
4. Outside shower and facilities separate from bathroom

5. A house that will grow with the family
6. Good storage spaces for food, clothes, and other possessions
7. Safe sewage disposal and drainage
8. Good Lighting
9. Construction of additional units
10. Adequate living room
11. Freezing units
12. Home Ground improvements

In Montana, farm families in every county with a home demonstration agent have requested house-planning workshops. Planned for the near future, they will deal with planning new homes and remodeling old structures.

In North Carolina, about 4,000 rural women in the home demonstration clubs are now discussing building programs and farm repairs that have been held in abeyance during the war years. Meetings on farm housing and repair are now being held in many counties and both the home demonstration and agricultural agents are assisting farm families in making their plans. The Agricultural Engineering Department is providing blueprints for buildings and other information.

Mother-Son Build Home

Mrs. Everette Fox of the Oakdale Club in Iredell County, North Carolina, has just finished building a new home with the help of her 16-year-old son, Jimmy, since Mr. Fox is busy with other work. They began the work last July but were delayed by the shortage of some building materials.

Mrs. Anne T. Page, Home Agent of the State College Extension Service says Mrs. Fox's home plan includes a living room, den, dinette, two bedrooms, bath, kitchen, small hall, and a back porch. Insulation and central heating are being provided. The roof is of asbestos shingles.

"I have a basement, a closet in every room and one on the back porch, and a sweet Dutch cupboard in the dinette," says Mrs. Fox. "The placements of the doors and windows gave me some trouble, but they are now placed to give good wall spaces for furniture as well as light and air. The information on house furnishings and home management obtained at home demonstration club meetings has been of great value to me in getting this job done."

Meetings on farm housing and repair are now being held in many counties in North Carolina, and both home and farm agents are assisting farm families in making their plans. The Agricultural Engineering Department is also assisting with blueprints on farm buildings and other information.

Family Builds Home for \$500

Building a home in wartime requires ingenuity and patience, but it can be accomplished at low cost, according to Inez Sitton, Lonoke county home demonstration agent, Arkansas. Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Goose of Cabot, Arkansas, have constructed a modern 5-room bungalow for approximately \$500, she states.

The Goose family were evacuated from a comfortable home in the Camp Robinson area in January, 1940. They bought a farm 2 miles south of Cabot. There were two shacks on the place but no home to live in permanently. The entire family planned the house and discussed ways and means of building it. A small sawmill was bought and cross ties sold to pay for its operation. Timber from the farm was sawed for rough lumber and allowed to season. Lumber that was smoke and water damaged and sold at a fire sale provided sub-flooring and siding. Part of the roofing was also purchased at a discount at the fire sale.

The old home furnished doors, windows, inside partitions and some roofing.

The hardwood floors in all the rooms were an unexpected luxury and they cost only \$6.25. Mr. Goose salvaged them from the waste slabs cut from the cross ties. He took them to the mill and had 4-inch boards cut from the center. When the groove and tongue were cut, this produced hardwood flooring approximately 3 inches in width.

Deadening felt was used between the floors and to insulate the walls. Some closets and cabinets were built and space has been provided for others when the war is over and plumbing and wiring supplies are again available, Miss Sitton explains. The Goose family painted and papered their house.

Mr. Goose has done most of the work when he could spare some time from his farming operations and from his job in a defense plant. Mrs. Goose organized the Old Highway 67 Home Demonstration Club 3 years ago and served as its president for 2 years.

FAMILY LIFE

The increased strain on family relationships caused by worry over husbands and sons in service, longer working hours, and other wartime disruptions of family life served to bring into sharper focus the need for increased emphasis on parent education and child development.

This need to preserve family unity and strengthen home times led 205,388 families to seek assistance with child-development and guidance problems through the home demonstration program.

Problem-Solving Method Developed

Rural women, with the assistance of family life specialists and home demonstration agents, developed a problem-solving method to be used in meeting family difficulties. Based on sound mental hygiene principles, the 3-step process includes defining the problem, facing the facts, and using the facts to develop a solution. Parents also studied teen-age psychology, methods of training the pre-school child in health and food habits and cooperated in sponsoring medical clinics for toddlers.

Wholesome Recreation Emphasized

The home demonstration agents also joined forces to short-circuit juvenile delinquency by providing wholesome recreation and constructive leisure-time pursuits.

Leisure-time activity with emphasis on re-creation has been a long-time goal of the home demonstration program. Rural women participating in the program have worked toward achieving this aim by building community centers, sponsoring playgrounds, developing libraries, organizing community-wide recreation programs. In 1944, almost half a million families (433,559) asked the assistance of home demonstration agents in improving home recreation. In turn, rural families improved community recreation facilities in 29,290 communities, established 906 club or community houses, assisted in providing library facilities in 4,960 communities, and improved school or community grounds in 5,924 communities.

Playground Sponsored

A playground for rural children in the vicinity of Lakeville, Indiana, is one of the community service projects of the Harmony Acres Home Economics Club. The community is actually a suburb of South Bend, but it is 9 miles from the city and some of the children in the neighborhood had never seen a "real" playground. There were more than 100 children in the 66 families living within an area of $1\frac{1}{4}$ square miles.

Money and materials were short, but ingenuity, community spirit, and the will to work made up the difference. The club members enlisted the aid of their husbands at a husband's night cooperative supper; the problems of building the playground were talked over, and one of the men was appointed superintendent of construction of the Park Board.

A possible site for the playground was discovered in an old dead-end roadway - providing it could be closed. Through the help of Mrs. Esther T. Singer, county home demonstration agent, proper officials were reached, legal procedure was completed, and the County Planning Commission gave permission for the ground to be used. Then the road was closed, and an area of 60 feet by 250 feet was surveyed and graded by the county highway department.

In the meantime, the club members, their husbands - all who were not in the armed forces - and even the children went to work to equip the playground. All over the community - in garages, basements, and kitchens - sawing, hammering, painting, and all the other work of building kept everyone busy. The materials desired were not always obtainable, and substitutes had to be devised. Expense of materials was also a limiting factor, but other persons and organizations in the community were learning of the enterprise and began making donations. When the first equipment was ready to go into place, even the 8- and 9-year-olds worked and sweat as they dug post holes and wielded paint brushes along with their elders.

Playground equipment consists of a sand box, complete with roof and seats; six big swings and four smaller ones; two trapeze rings; two bar trapezes;

a monkey climb; and six red, white, and blue teeter boards. Members of the Harmony Acres Home Economics Club take turns supervising the playground. To prepare for the job, every woman in the club took a Red Cross home nursing course.

Community-night Programs

Young people in nine Craighead county, Arkansas, communities will have better social life as a result of the home demonstration club activities in the opinion of Mary Britzman, home demonstration agent.

Discussing the subject, "What are we doing to help young people in our community?", the women realized that youths needed some help with their recreational activities.

Entire families now attend the joint community night programs of the Herman and Cole Corner Clubs at the Herman school each fourth Friday. Recreational leaders direct group singing, games, and contests. They provide games for smaller children in separate rooms.

A pie supper provided funds for the remodeling of the Brown Home Demonstration Club room and for the purchase of some games. Men cooperated by painting the walls and ceilings of the large room. Two parties are given each month, one for single boys and girls and one for young married couples.

Community night at the Antioch clubhouse each month consists of supper, followed by singing and games. The Clinton Club cooperates with the 4-H Club in arranging a monthly program of plays, old-fashioned spelling bees, and suppers.

Rural Drama Festival

Forgotten for the day were baby chicks, registered seed and 4-H calves as 600 busy men and women from 10 counties arrived on the campus of Colorado A & M College, March 2, to participate in the first annual rural play festival. Mrs. Margaret Fillas, Extension recreation specialist, was right there to greet the winning county casts.

It was a colorful sight to watch as eager men and women carried their benches, ironing boards, bushel baskets of costumes and what not across the lawn to the little theater in Ammons Hall.

"There was no poor play in the festival. The splendid group work and the outstanding individual acting would not have been possible without the generous help of the neighborhoods supporting the casts," said Mrs. Fillas.

"Those who did farm chores or ironing so others could practice made a definite contribution to the success of the plays. The excellent work of the directors was also evident in each play. When you realize that only one of the casts competing in the festival came less than 100 miles, you realize that play production requires more whole-hearted cooperation than any other community activity." To one of the judges, Miss Ruth J. Wattles, the festival was a dream come true. During her years on the faculty she has

promoted the idea of rural drama. She was ably assisted in the judging by William B. Bjornstad of the English department and Mrs. Shirley Heath.

"Make it an annual affair and include all of the state," the audience demanded as Mrs. Willas presented the green and gold banner to the winning cast at the close of the night session.

Winners in the 10-county competition were: First - Larimer County - "The Valiant," Second - Washington County - "The Neighbors," Third - Douglas and Lincoln counties tied with "Poor Old Jim."

Other counties competing included Jefferson, El Paso, Logan, Yuma, Arapahoe, and Huerfano.

Recreation Training Schools

A recreation training school for 4-H Club boys and girls and home demonstration club women was held in Tyler, Texas, October 8 to 12, sponsored by the home demonstration council of the 15 counties in the District served by county home demonstration agents. Each county contributed \$10 to cover expenses of the school and each was allowed to send 10 delegates. Requirements of the delegates were to "Attend all meetings, take part in all activities, and teach others what they had learned. The Smith County Home Demonstration Club women opened their homes to the delegates, providing them with a place to sleep and breakfast each morning. Delegates ranged in age from boys and girls of 10 to women of 65. The training consisted of stunts, songs and games, quiet games, musical mixers, planning community parties and community recreation. 150 attended. School directed by Mrs. Anne Livingston of the National Recreation Association.

Members of the Alabama council of Home Demonstration clubs have launched a program for 1946 encouraging the State's 45,000 club women to take the lead in recreation leading to happier family relationships.

For two days and three evenings, 50 members living in all parts of the State were trained at Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, to direct community recreation activities, including parties, games, songs and so forth. The Physical Education Department of the Institute provided the training.

Almost 1,000 communities in Kansas now have a regular program of fun for families in the neighborhood. Rural people helped establish youth centers, opened closed school houses for recreation centers, improved many picnic grounds and school grounds, and established community libraries. Sixty four communities set up craft centers (in 1944) while 953 families reported having fun with crafts at home.

EDUCATION

Education is claiming much attention from home demonstration club women. In Arkansas they are supporting all educational movements, and are working for free text books for each grade, and an increase of teachers' salaries. Colorado clubs have appointed a committee to survey the needs in that State - increase of teachers' salaries and other things are needed.

College Residential Halls

And in line with this, aid for rural girls seeking higher education is growing in all the States. The 4-H Co-Op House that Arkansas home demonstration council has been working on is coming along well. Kansas is raising \$200,000 for a Girls' Residence Hall at Kansas State College. Colorado is working out ways and means of starting a 4-H Co-Op House at the State Agricultural College, Fort Collins.

Loan Funds and Scholarship

Loan funds are growing in several States. Michigan keeps building up their fund, the income from which is used to help finance a deserving rural girl in College. Ohio is hoping to start one soon. North and South Carolina, Virginia and New York have Loan Funds. There are probably others.

Twelve home demonstration clubs in Newcastle county, Delaware, each year award a \$150 scholarship toward the education of a worthy New Castle county girl. Two of these have already received their degrees from the University of Delaware and are teaching home economics in Delaware schools.

The home demonstration council of Randall county, Texas, offers a \$100 scholarship award to attend West Texas State College at Canyon to the outstanding 4-H Club girl in their extension service district.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

The widespread interest in both education and health has one of its most concrete manifestations in the support of school-lunch programs.

The home demonstration groups in 18,596 communities have assisted the schools in equipping and operating school lunchrooms. At times the lunchrooms were operated through volunteer labor of these women. They have supplied food and have canned from their surplus to take care of winter lunches. Teachers at some of the schools report that they have noticed a great improvement in the appearance of some pupils and in the quality of their school work since the children have been eating a hot dish

each day at school. The mothers say their children will eat the food prepared at school that they refuse to eat at home. They believe it is because they eat with other children. "Our club is leading the future generation toward better nutrition by serving each day a free hot lunch to 60 school children," says one home demonstration club president.

Right Eating - Fourth R

The fourth R has been added to the usual readin', writin', and 'rithmetic in LaCrosse County, Wisconsin. Right eating is sharing a place in the school curriculum with the standard three.

Among home economists, this new subject is better known as nutrition, and the official title in the LaCrosse County school curriculum is "school-lunch program." All schools, beginning in the fall of 1943 were required to include this program in the curriculum.

The school-lunch program, as worked out by LaCrosse County, was designed not only to improve the health of the county's boys and girls says Anita Gundlach, home demonstration agent, but to make the health program as essential as the three R's.

The LaCrosse County program began early in 1943 when the county school officials and the county nutrition committee pooled their efforts to improve the county's school-lunch program.

The first step was to set-up a county school-lunch committee, made up of the county superintendent of schools, the county home demonstration agent, a representative of the outdoor relief department, and a member of the county nutrition committee chosen because of her training and previous experience with school lunches.

This school-lunch committee developed aims for a school-lunch program, and outlined a workable plan for LaCrosse County. The county home agent and the county nutrition chairman were made responsible for working out details of the plan, and the initiative in carrying out the program was given to the schools. Schools, in turn, were to seek the cooperation of any existing agencies in the county, including mothers' clubs, parent-teacher associations, homemakers' clubs, 4-H Clubs, Scouts, Girl Reserves, church groups, vocational homemaking groups, community clubs, Red Cross classes, AAA, FSA, garden clubs, and the Farm Bureau. The committee believed that a school-lunch program could be effective only if all agencies would cooperate.

Teachers in schools throughout the county now have at hand a manual prepared for them. A bulletin, Teaching Nutrition Through the School Lunch, was prepared by the school-lunch section of the LaCrosse County nutrition committee for LaCrosse County; and copies were available to all school teachers and agencies.

Seven aims were stated in this bulletin, aims that kept in mind not only the immediate objective of giving each child in the schools an adequate lunch but that went into community interests in good health and the desire

to give LaCrosse County school children a part in the campaign "To build a stronger America."

Extra Garden Row

Most popular project of Colorado home demonstration clubs last fall was providing hot school lunches for the children in their own community. In Logan county, the Atwood Home Demonstration club has been the sparkplug for a school-lunch program. Last summer the members agreed to plant an extra row for the school-lunch project.

During the canning season the home economics room at the Sterling High School was borrowed and the members took turns bringing their cookers and canning until all the available vegetables were canned.

The school board took the responsibility of fixing up the old gymnasium at Atwood into a lunch room. A store room was made; built-in cupboards, drawers and three sinks were installed and table tops were covered with inlaid linoleum. Kitchen equipment is not yet adequate, but in order to raise money for the equipment, a pie supper or some kind of party is given once a month. Last month such events netted \$95. This made it possible to buy a new stove. A hot water heater and refrigerator are next in line. Two home demonstration club members, Mrs. Charles Bower and Mrs. Bert Strong, are the cooks.

PROBLEMS OF WAR AND PEACE

The interests of rural women are by no means confined to the local community. During the war years rural areas subscribed their quotas in such emergency drives as war bond sales, collection of funds for the community chest and Red Cross, wrapping bandages and making garments for the Red Cross, salvaging waste fats, scrap metal, rubber, and contributing clothing and food for war relief.

With the end of the war, interest in the welfare of the world community has expanded as the need for continued assistance to war-torn countries becomes more apparent. The international aspect of the theme - "Today's Home Builds Tomorrow's World" has been accentuated by recent international developments and the famine relief drive. Reports coming in from the States indicate that emphasis on the home in the world community will be used to give impetus to the many "hands-across the sea" projects now under way.

Rural women in Delaware, Massachusetts, Kansas, South Carolina, and perhaps other States are contributing to the fund to be sent to Norway to assist in the rehabilitation of home demonstration work there.

In New York, Tioga County reports that local groups have sent boxes to Holland, Finland, Belgium and England, and Nassau County rural women have adopted a nursery in Arnheim, Holland and are supplying it with food,

and toys for babies and toddlers.

In Pueblo County, Colorado, homemakers have already made good use of the county canning center to process 7,365 cans of food for donation to UNRRA.

Understanding Stressed as a Road to Peace

In addition to spontaneous action to meet wartime and current emergencies, rural women are moving to lay a firm foundation for world peace through better understanding of their world neighbors.

Even before the event at Hiroshima made the world aware of the dire necessity for peace between nations through understanding between peoples, families in many States were asking the Extension Service for assistance in learning more about life in other lands. As a result, materials on home life in other countries have been provided for study groups. Discussion outlines in New Jersey have included: "A Glimpse of China," "A Glimpse of Some Northern Neighbors." "Our British Cousins." and "Understanding Ourselves."

Groups in Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Mississippi, South Carolina, Wyoming and other States have studied the culture and customs of Latin-American countries and learned their songs and folk dances. In addition they have opened their homes to Latin-American and Chinese extension trainees studying in the United States as one phase of the Department of State's program of cultural cooperation.

In Oregon between 300 and 400 home demonstration women have been corresponding with rural women in England. Interesting letters are read and discussed at home demonstration meetings.

In Erie County, New York, members of the Clarence home bureau group made a special study of the needs of European children. They used the book, "They Shall Inherit the Earth", by Otto Zoff, as a basis for discussion.

Utah's young married couples have for a number of years devoted at least one program annually to the theme: "Know Your Neighbors in Other Countries." Returning servicemen and women are now contributing to the programs.

Russian-American relations have been the study of home demonstration clubs in Garfield County, Colorado. The study included Russian education, agriculture, and other phases of Russian life.

"An international potpourri bubbled and sewed and filled the air with nose-twitching, mouth-watering odors. . as Portuguese, Greek, Italian, and Armenian women demonstrated how to make various foods of their countries." This was how the Evening Bulletin reporter started her description of a demonstration held under the sponsorship of the Rhode Island Extension Service and the International Institute. The idea behind this program is, of course, to have friends and neighbors from other countries prepare foods in ways new and different to most people in this country in dishes that are delicious and would add interest to meals. These women have much to teach us on making small amounts of meat go a long way.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND HOME

Their interest in developments in the local and world community, however, has not curtailed individual efforts of rural women to continue improving family diet and wardrobes, home interiors and furnishings, home grounds, management of family finances, and work methods. This sustained interest is shown in the following figures reflecting the demands of rural families for assistance of extension agents.

HOME DEMONSTRATION ACTIVITIES IN 1944

Farm homes influenced.	2,142,225
Other homes influenced	1,273,595
Total homes influenced	3,415,820
Membership in home demonstration clubs	1,106,089
Other homes influenced - where homemakers not a member of an organized group.	2,309,731

WHAT WERE SOME OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS?

Number of families assisted in developing a farm and home plan	62,643
Number of farmers assisted this year in using "outlook" to make farm adjustments	517,517
Families provided with needed storage space.	157,527
Families assisted in rearranging or improving kitchens	123,157
Families assisted in improving housekeeping methods	398,211
Number of families assisted in improving food supply by making changes in home food production.	2,432,515
Number of families assisted with canning	2,076,217
Families assisted in producing and preserving home food supply according to annual food-supply budget	974,514
Families assisted with time-management problems.	288,113
Families assisted with financial planning.	128,523
Families assisted with home accounts	101,896
Families assisted in improving use of credit for family living expenses.	45,272
Total number of different families assisted this year with consumer-buying problems.	491,869
Families assisted this year in using timely economic information to make buying decisions or other adjustments in family living	539,677
Families assisted with clothing construction problems.	737,799
Families assisted with care, renovation, and remodeling of clothing.	739,039
Families assisted with clothing accounts or budgets.	238,633

Families assisted with child-development and guidance problems. . .	205,388
Families assisted with improving family relationships.	233,168

WHAT WERE SOME OF THE COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS?

Number of schools assisted this year in establishing or maintaining hot school lunches.	18,596
Number of nutrition or health clinics organized this year through the efforts of extension workers.	5,648
Number of club or community houses established	906
Number of Community rest rooms established.	355
Number of communities assisted this year in providing library facilities.	4,920
Number of community grounds improved this year	5,924

WHO DID THE WORK?

Home Demonstration Agents and Assistants.	3,398
Extension Specialists in Home Economics field	266
Voluntary Women Leaders in Home Demonstration Work	488,672

For Further Information

See your State or county home demonstration workers, or your State Extension Editor.

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THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

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